

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With the House Republican Health Care Task Force

June 22, 1992

The President. Now, let me just say at the outset, what we are here to talk about is health care reform. We have some ideas up there that we feel make a great deal of sense. I know that some of you all have a program. I keep reading that the Democrats say they want to make a political statement before the convention. Far more important than a political statement, it seems to me, is getting something done that will allay the fears that people have and help in the health care reform area.

We've got a good program for insurance. We'll protect the quality of American health care. And what I'd like to get from everybody here today is how you feel we can get it done. The small market reforms are good; the increased tax deductions for the self-employed, very good; and we make some administrative statements. I'd like to hear if we could move forward on malpractice reform. But these are some of the ingredients of what we think is a very helpful, very practical, and forward-looking health care program. So I hope that we can move it.

Perot Investigations

Q. Mr. President, how do you feel about Ross Perot's private initiative to investigate you and your finances?

The President. Well, I better count to 10. [Laughter] I prefer not to take that question

right now, frankly.

Q. Were you aware of the inquiry?

The President. No, there's something not very pleasant about all this. And let me tell you this: It's fine to investigate on one's own the Vice President of the United States; no evidence to support any investigation. But I feel a little tense about it when they—if the reports are true of investigating my children, my family. There's something—I don't think that's particularly right. But nevertheless, I've probably said too much here.

Q. No, you haven't.

The President. Put it this way: I've said all I'm going to say.

Q. Are you angry?

The President. I'm not sure that's the proper word. There will be plenty of time to find out what happened here, but I don't like what I see.

Q. You're going to call him up and ask him yourself what happened?

Q. Has he called you—

The President. Thank you very much. Thank you all.

Q. —to apologize or complain?

Note: The President spoke at 4:09 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Trade With Romania

June 22, 1992

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

In accordance with section 407 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-618, January 3, 1975; 88 Stat. 1978), as amended (the "Trade Act"), I am transmitting a copy of a proclamation that extends nondiscriminatory treatment to the products of Romania. I also enclose the text of the "Agree-

ment on Trade Relations Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania," including exchanges of letters that form an integral part of the Agreement, which was signed on April 3, 1992, and which is included as an annex to the proclamation.

The Agreement will provide a nondis-

criminary framework for our bilateral trade relations and thus strengthen both economic and political relations between the United States and Romania. Conclusion of this Agreement is an important step we can take to provide greater economic benefits to both countries. It will also give further impetus to the progress we have made in our overall diplomatic relations since last year and help to reinforce political and economic reform in Romania. In that context, the United States is encouraging Romania to continue to strive for a democratic, pluralistic society, particularly through the conduct of early, free, and fair national elections.

I believe that the Agreement is consistent with both the letter and the spirit of the Trade Act. It provides for mutual extension of nondiscriminatory tariff treatment while seeking to ensure overall reciprocity of economic benefits. It includes safeguard arrangements to ensure that our trade with Romania will grow without causing disruption to the U.S. market and consequent injury to domestic firms or loss of jobs for American workers.

The Agreement also confirms and expands for American businesses certain basic rights in conducting commercial transactions both within Romania and with Romanian nationals and business entities. Other provisions include those dealing with settlement of commercial disputes, financial transactions, and government commercial offices. Through this Agreement, Romania also undertakes obligations to modernize

and upgrade very substantially its protection of intellectual property rights. Once fully implemented, the Romanian intellectual property regime will be on a par with that of our principal industrialized trading partners. This Agreement will not alter U.S. law or practice with respect to the protection of intellectual property.

On August 17, 1991, I waived application of subsections (a) and (b) of section 402 of the Trade Act to Romania. I determined that this waiver will substantially promote the objectives of section 402, and, pursuant to section 402(c)(2) of the Trade Act, notified the Congress that I have received assurances that the emigration practices of Romania will henceforth lead substantially to achievement of those objectives.

I urge that the Congress act as soon as possible to approve the "Agreement on Trade Relations Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania" and the proclamation extending nondiscriminatory treatment to products of Romania by enactment of a joint resolution referred to in section 151 of the Trade Act.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH

Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate. The proclamation is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume. The agreement was published in the Federal Register on June 24.

Presidential Determination No. 92-34—Memorandum on Trade With Romania

June 22, 1992

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Determination Under Section 405(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as Amended—Romania

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Trade Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-618, January 3, 1975; 88 Stat. 1978), as

amended (the "Trade Act"), I determine, pursuant to section 405(a) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2435(a)), that the "Agreement on Trade Relations Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania" will promote the purposes of the Trade Act and is in the